Consumers with Kasauli Gas Services, Sirsa

4493. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that consumers registered with the Kasauli Gas Service, Sirsa. Harynaa are not getting supply of fields as the gas cylinders are reported to be openly sold at a cost of more than Rs. 200 per cylinder;

(b) whether Government are also aware that such a situation has been prevailing for the last one year; and

(c) if so. what remedial steps Government propose to take to help the consumers registered with the said gas agency?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation has reported that it has not received any complaints on 'Blackmarketing' or overcharging of refills from any of the consumers of Kasauli Gas Service, Sirsa Haryana during the last one year.

4494. [*Transferred to the 18th August, 1992*].

Flaring of gas in Assam

4495. SHRI BHADRESHWAR BURAGOHAIN:

SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to minimise the flaring natural gas by the oil and Natural Gas Commission and the Oil India Limited in Assam;

(b) whether the regular light causes environmetal degradation of the adjoining areas;

(c) if so. whether any steps have been taken by the authorities to check the degradation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Efforts are made to minimise the damage to the environment by resorting to cold flaring during tea planting and harvesting season, shielding of gas flare pits by double brick walls, and reducing lumonosity of the flame, etc.

Deficit on oil Coordination Committee Account

4496. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the deficit in the oil Coordination Committee account during the last three years:

(b) what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have cleared a new petroleum pricing formula to wipe out this deficit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and its impact on prices of petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) During the years 1989-90 to 1991-92 the oil Pool Account has incurred a deficit of about Rs. 5336 crores after making adjustments from the OCC balances in the Public Account etc. The deficit is due to the full costs not being recovered in the prices of the petroleum products.

(c) and (d) The prices of petroleum products are fixed keeping in view the Costs, growth in demand and other socio economic factors.

Waiting list of LPG connections in A.P.

4497. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present waiting list for L.P.G. connections in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of new L.P.G. connections given to Andhra Pradesh during 1991-92;

(c) what is the target for the new LPG connections in Andhra Pradesh for the year 1992-93; and

(d) by when the present waiting list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) 4.81 lakhs (approx) as on 1-4-1992.

(b) 79900 (approx.)

(c) and (d) Allotment of new LPG connections are not made on State-wise basis, but are determined by the demand and availability of the product. Efforts are constantly on to give LPG connection to as many applicants as early as possible.

Setting up of L.P.G. Agencies in Cuddapah District of Andhra Pradesh

4498 DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to Commission new L.P.G. distributionship at Rajam pet and Jammalamadugu in Cuddapah district in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what is the commission given to the dealers on each L.P.G. cylinder?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Oil Industry has proposals to put up one LPG distributorship each at Rajampet and Jammalamadugu in Cuddapah district of Andhra Pradesh subject to product availability.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Rs. 5.00 per 14.2 cylinder.

Strike by Federation of All India Petroleum Traders

4499. CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH: SHRI SHIV PRASAD MISHRA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Federation of All India Petroleum Traders has decided to go on strike and stop work in pertoleum pumps throughout the country on 11th August, 1992 demanding increase in the commission on sale of motor spirit and high speed diesel to three percentage instead of one percentage of sales invoices as at present;

(b) whether it is also a fact that they had warned the Government that their agitation would be intensified if their demand for increase in the commission is not conceded by Government; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to avert the strike with a view to ending the inconvenience and hardship that would be caused to the general public at this juncture?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The Federa- of All India Petroleum Traders decided not to proceed with the proposed closure of petrol pumps on the 11th August, 1992.

Production of Gas Cylinders

4500. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present capacity of the Indian Oil Corporation for producing cooking gas cylinders and industrial gas cylinder, separately; and

(b) what are the other industrial units which manufacture gas cylinders, besides Indian Oil Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) There are 82 OITC (Oil Industry Technical Committee) approved cylinder manufacturing units in the country. Indian Oil Corporation does not manufature LPG cylinders.